



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE

### **KC FELON SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Today's sentencing is part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

**Saleem M. Nelson**, 24, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Howard F. Sachs this morning to three years and eight months in federal prison without parole.

On April 16, 2004, **Nelson** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Nelson** admitted that he was in possession of a Highpoint rifle on Feb. 12, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Nelson** has a 2003 criminal felony conviction for trafficking.

**Nelson** was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Feb. 26, 2004, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

### **Project Ceasefire**

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
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